

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

# Matthew Clancy appointed chief

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physical and psychological exam.

MacDonald said he personally witnessed the assessment center run by the search firm BadgeQuest, and was impressed with Clancy. After an in-person interview, he was sold.

"I feel Chief Clancy rose to the top," MacDonald said. "I am very comfortable with him."

MacDonald said he has informed the Board of Selectmen, the police chief search committee and the police unions of his decision.

Clancy was one of three candidates for Duxbury's next police chief: Plympton Police Chief Matthew Clancy, retired Londonderry New Hampshire Police Chief Joseph Ryan and Worcester Lieutenant Richard Bates.

Barry DeCristofano, chairman of the Board of Selectmen in Plympton, said when Clancy was a candidate for the police chief's job in Middleboro last May, members of the police union approached the selectmen and asked them to do everything in their power to retain their chief.

"That's coming from his staff," said DeCristofano. "He'll be disappointed if he doesn't get the job, but we'll be happy to keep him a little

longer."

He said Clancy has made great strides in professionalizing the Plympton Police Department, which is small — only six full-time officers and about a dozen part-time policemen and women.

"We are a small town, but we're a small town that has moved into the 21st century," DeCristofano said. "He's tried to meld a small town police force with the modern reality of technology."

Clancy is what's known as a strong chief, so he negotiates contracts and has day-to-day control of his department, but DeCristofano said he keeps the lines of communications with the selectmen open.

"He certainly keeps up abreast of any important issues that come along," he said.

Clancy was a sergeant in Mashpee before becoming Plympton's chief in 2002.

Rev. Catherine Cullen, chairwoman of the Duxbury Police Chief Search Committee, said she was pleased with the search process. The group picked the three names after receiving more than 50 resumes. In particular, the group was impressed with Clancy from his initial interview.

"The word that jumps out at me is professionalism," said Cullen. "He understands the culture in Duxbury."

She noted that he came

into a difficult situation in Plympton.

"He brought a lot of healing to that department," she said. "We've very excited and he seemed excited about us ... He'll make a great public face for the department."

Cullen praised Steven Unsworth of BadgeQuest, the consultant hired to help guide the search process.

"He shepherded us through," she said. "He's done this many times before, he just established a great process."

Cullen also said adding the step of in-person interviews with the top candidates, a step Unsworth does not always include in his searches, really helped narrow down the field.

"I thought we had a terrific pool of candidates to draw from," she said. "In some respects it was hard to choose just a few to go forward."

MacDonald praised the search committee for their efforts.

"I'm proud of the committee," he said. "They did a great job."

MacDonald said he hopes to have Clancy start as Duxbury's chief sometime in May.

"I'm asking the community and the police department to work with Chief Clancy and to give him every opportunity to succeed," he said.

## Matthew Clancy named police chief

### Plympton chief offered Duxbury's top job pending exams, contract

By JUSTIN GRAEBER, CLIPPER EDITOR  
JUSTIN@DUXBURYCLIPPER.COM

Plympton Police Chief Matthew Clancy has been offered the job of Duxbury police chief, Town Manager Richard MacDonald said Tuesday.

MacDonald said that Clancy has accepted the position pending the negotiation of a contract, a background test,



Plympton Police Chief Matthew Clancy has been tapped to be Duxbury's next police chief.

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